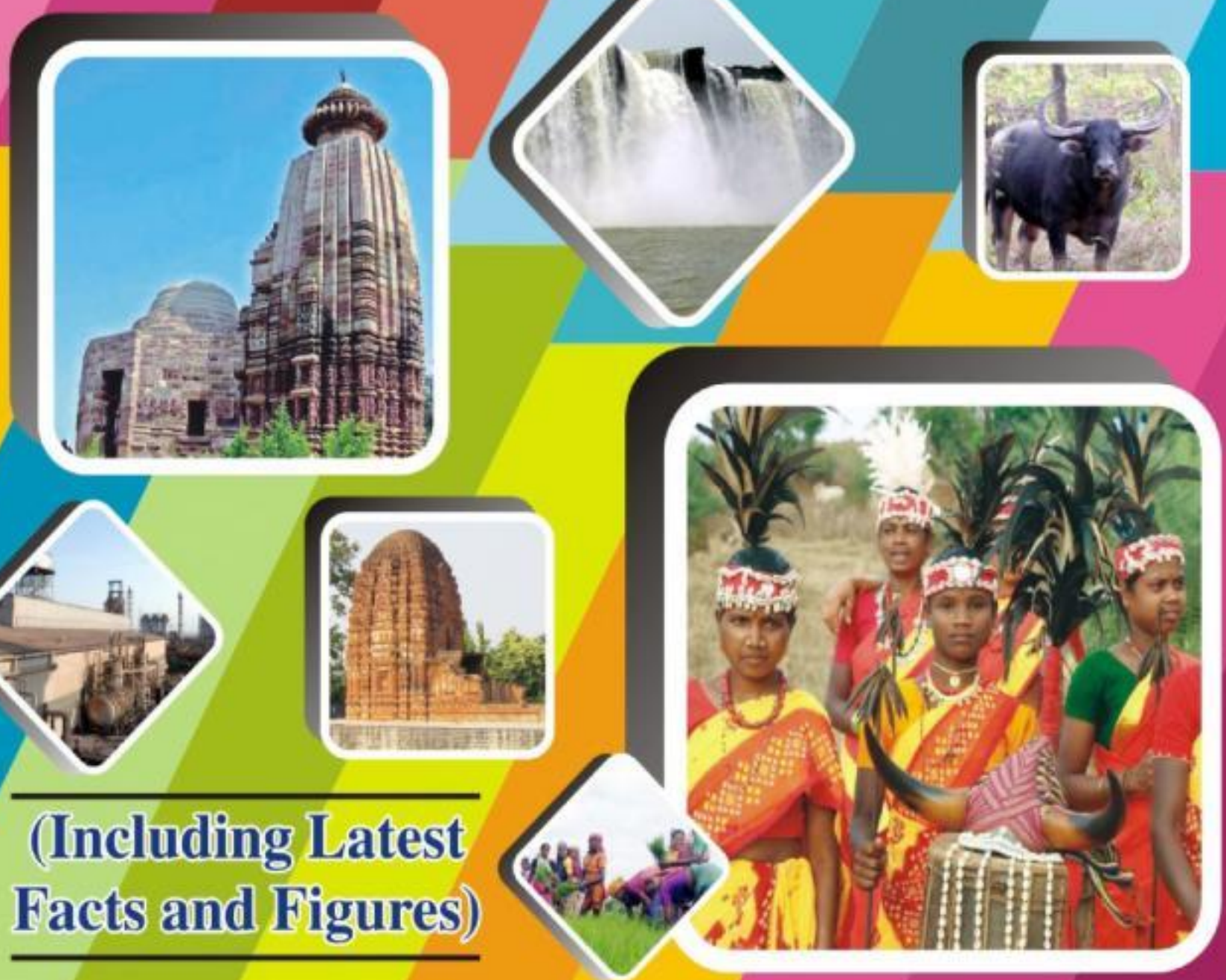
UPKAR'S

CHHATTISGARH GENERAL KNOWLEDGE



(Including Latest Facts and Figures)

Dr. C.L. Khanna

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(Including Latest Facts and Figures)

By
Dr. C. L. Khanna
Revised by
Kumar Sundram

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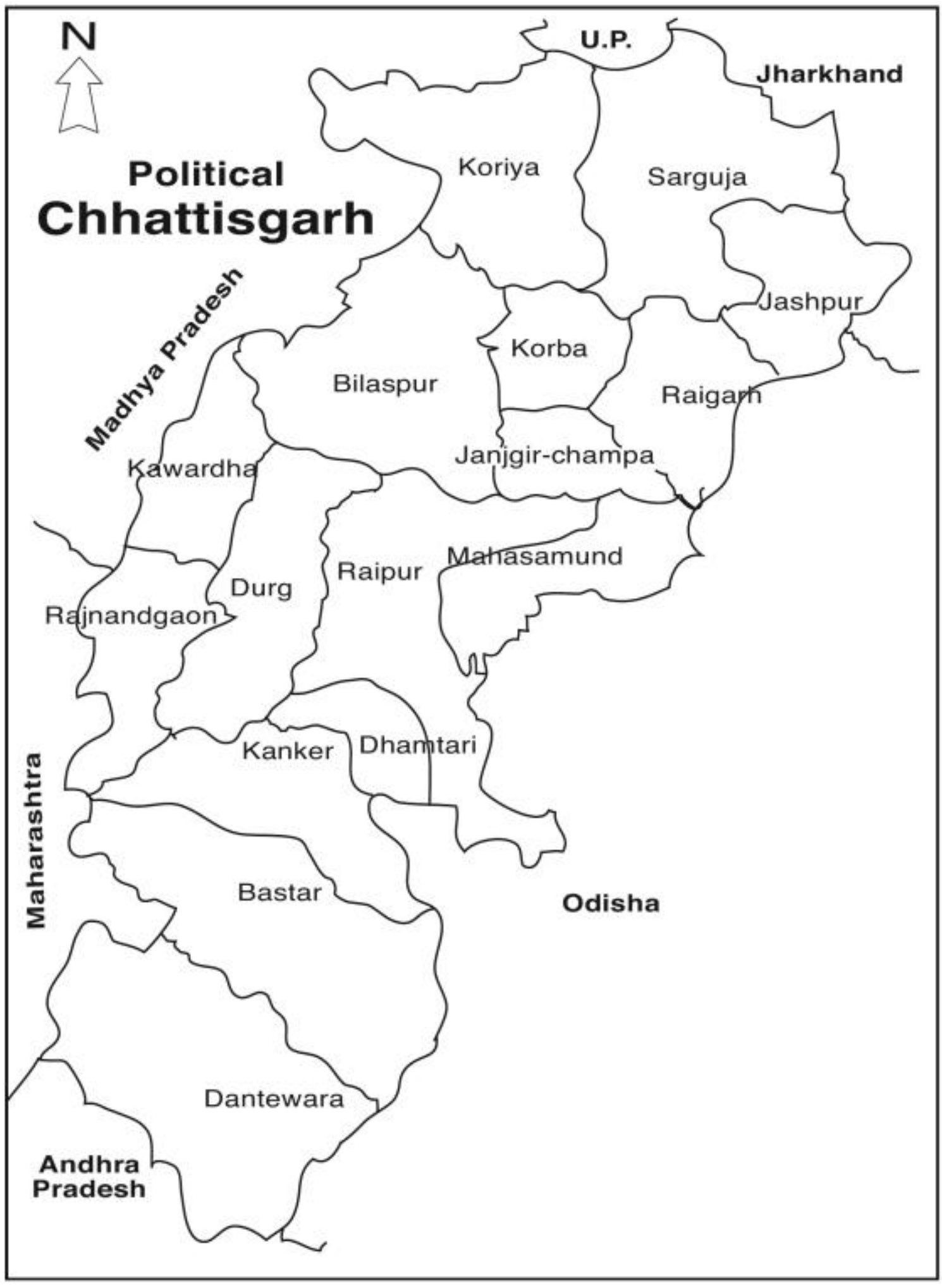
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Chhattisgarh General Knowledge


N
Political
Chhattisgarh
U.P.
Jharkhand
Koriya
Sarguja
Madhya Pradesh
Jashpur
Korba
Bilaspur
Raigarh
Janjgir-champa
Kawardha
Mahasamund
Raipur
Durg
Rajnandgaon
Kanker
Dhamtari
Maharashtra
Bastar
Odisha
Dantewara
Andhra
Pradesh

Chhattisgarh : A Brief

State	Chhattisgarh (26th state)
Capital	Raipur
Day of formation	Ist Nov. 2000 (Midnight of 31st Oct. 2000)
Importance	A tribal dominated state prosperous in minerals and vegetation, a symbol of expectation of local people.
Artistic culture	Toys, attractive utensils of mud, lac materials, wooden work, zari, metal and copper utensils.
Nomenclature	On the basis of 36 Garhs named Chhattisgarh. The Kalchuri kings ruled over Chedi region, their state was known as Chedisgarh. Later on it was known as Chhattisgarh.
Geographical Location	Situated in South-East of Madhya Pradesh from 17°-46′ North latitude to 24°-5′ North latitude and 84°-15′ East longitude to 84°-20′ East longitude.
Boundaries	Bounded by Uttar Pradesh and Jharkhand in the North, Odisha in the East, Andhra Pradesh in the South and Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra in the West.
Extent	Length from East to West 700 km. and breadth from North to South 435 km.
Area	1,35,191 km^2
Rank in the country according to Area :	10th
District having the largest Area :	Dantewara
District having the lowest Area :	Dhamtari
Population 2011 :	2,55,45,198 persons
Male :	1,28,32,895
Female :	1,27,12,303
Scheduled Caste Population (2011) :	32,74,269
Male :	16,41,738
Female :	16,32,531
Scheduled Tribe Population (2011) :	78,22,902
Male :	38,73,191
Female :	39,49,711
District with maximum Population :	Raipur (40,63,872)
District with minimum Population :	Narainpur (1,39,820)
Rank in the country according to Population :	17th
Percentage of total population of the Country :	2·1%
Rural Population (2011)	1,96,07,961 persons
Male :	97,97,426
Female :	98,10,535
Urban Population (2011)	59,37,237 persons
Male :	30,35,469
Female :	29,01,768
Rank in the country according to Literacy :	28th
Literacy (2011)	70·3% (Total literate 1,53,79,922)
Male :	80·3% (8807893)
Female :	60·2% (65,72,029)
Highest literacy (District)	Durg (79·69%)
Lowest literacy (District)	Bijapur (41·58%)
Female ratio	991 per thousand male (2011)
Highest female ratio	Bastar (district) (1024 female per 1000 male)
Lowest female ratio	Koriya district (971 female per 1000 male)
Density of population (2011)	189 persons per km^2
District with highest Density :	Janjgir-Champa (420 persons)

* Nine new districts created on January 1, 2012. The newly created districts are—Sukama, Kondagaon, Balodabazar, Gariyabad, Bemetara, Balod, Mungeli, Surajpur, Balrampur.

District with lowest Density : Narainpur (30 persons)

Population increase (2001–11)	22·6%
Maximum population increase	Kabir Dham–40·66
Minimum population increase	South Bastar Dantewara–11·90
Division	5
No. of Districts*	27
Tehsils	149
No. of villages	20,126
No. of Electrified Villages	19,177
Legislative assembly	Unicameral legislature (Lower House or Vidhan Sabha)
Members of Lower House (Lok Sabha)	11
Members of Upper House (Rajya Sabha)	05
Members of State Legislative Assembly	90
Important Cities	Bilaspur, Durg, Bhilai, Raipur
Total Rail Route in the State	1,186 km
Aerodrome	Raipur, Jagdalpur, Bilaspur
Total Forest Area (2010-11)	59772 sq. km
Reserved Forest Area (2010-11)	25782·17 sq. km
Protected Forest Area (2010-11)	24036·10 sq. km
Unclassified Forest Area (2010-11)	9954·13 sq. km
Revenue Forest	18,214 sq. km
Installed Electricity Capacity (2010-11)	1924·70 MW
Power Generation (2010-11)	14057·69 MU
Number of Universities (2010-11)	7
High Court	Bilaspur (19th in the country)
Main Languages	Chhattisgarhi, Hindi and Urdu
State formation day	1st November
State Animal	Wild Buffalo
State Bird	Hill Myna
State Tree	Asna
Present Governor	Shekhar Dutt
Present Chief Minister	Dr. Raman Singh
Chief Secretary	Vivek Dhand
Chief Justice (High Court)	Justice Yatindra Singh
Chief Electoral Officer	Sunil Kumar Kujur
Present Speaker of Vidhan Sabha	Gaurishankar Agarwal
Present Principal Secretary Chhattisgarh Legislative Assembly	Devendra Verma

Formation and Reorganisation of Chhattisgarh

"For a big, happy and glorious state where most of the resources are available and Chhattisgarh, Malwa and Narmada are the store–house of foodgrains while Chhattisgarh as well as Vindhya Pradesh are the storehouse of minerals …… from every point of view this state is Kamdhenu. Its cultural heritage is priceless."

The above statement was given by the Ravi Shankar Shukla, on 1st Nov., 1956, the first Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh. With the above slogan the formation of Madhya Pradesh state started, but unfortunately this largest state of free India proved to be a futile excercise, which opened a path for the separation of Chhattisgarh from Madhya Pradesh. According to ex-President Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma, the founder of modern India Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru, after seeing the map of Madhya Pradesh said that the formation of the state is unsatisfactory as well as unbalancing.

After the reorganisation of states 1955-56, seeing the map of Madhya Pradesh Pt. Nehru remarked "From where did this camel come in the mid of the Hindustan."

Formation of Chhattisgarh

Being 26th state of the country, Chhattisgarh was legally formed on 1st Nov., 2000. The day Dinesh Nandan Sahai, ex. I.P.S. officer D.I.G. P. and the member of Planning Commission took the oath as first Governor of the State at the midnight of 31st Oct.–1 Nov. 2000. The oath ceremony took place at police parade ground at Raipur, the capital of the newly formed state. The oath was administered by the acting Chief Justice of Chhattisgarh High Court Sri R.S. Garg. (for this a notification under the Madhya Pradesh reorganization ordinance 2000 section 21 (2) was issued by the President on 27th Oct. for the formation of main branch of Chhattisgarh High Court at Bilaspur from 1st Nov., 2000. This High Court is 19th in the country. Justice W. A. Sheshak, the justice of Guawhati High Court was nominated the Chief Justice of this High Court and R. S. Garg, the justice of Madhya Pradesh High Court was appointed justice of Chhattisgarh High Court.



After taking the oath, the Governor Sahai called Ajit Jogi, an eloquent speaker as well leader of the Congress legislature party, to take oath as first Chief Minister of the state. Before this on 31st Oct. the Congress party had elected Sri Jogi unanimously as the leader of the party. The

Congress party had 48 members out of 90, thus having the absolute majority in the Assembly. Bhartiya Janta Party had 36 members in the legislative assembly.

After taking oath as Chief Minister Jogi said that some of the priorities are short term while some of the priorities are long term. Their top priority in the state is to face drought as well as to eradicate poverty inspite of the state being prosperous in natural wealth.

The division of I.A.S. cadre in Madhya Pradesh, for Chhattisgarh state was done on 24th October. But ignoring the demand of Sri Digvijai Singh the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh for self option of I.A.S., I.P.S., I.F.S. officer for Chhattisgarh, U.C. Agarwal committee of central government selected these officers on Roster system. 100 I.A.S. officers out of 396 and 59 I.P.S. officers out of 278, 115 I.F.S. officers out of 386 were transferred to Chhattisgarh cadre. Arun Kumar the President of undivided Madhya Pradesh revenue board was the first Chief Secretary of Chhattisgarh and S.M. Shukla D.I.G. Homeguard was appointed D.I.G. police of Chhattisgarh state. These appointments were made on adhoc basis, thereafter they had been changed as per wishes of Chhattisgarh Chief Minister.

The formation of Chhattisgarh state was started on Aug. 20th, 2000, when both the houses of Parliament passed the reorgnisation Bill. The Madhya Pradesh re-organisation Bill, 2000 was passed by the Lower house on 31st July and in Upper house on 9th Aug. The Parliament passed this Bill with absolute majority. President of India assented the Bill on 28th, Aug. 2000 and it was notified as an Act in the government Gazetteer.

The dream of Chhattisgarh people came true when Dinesh Nandan Sahai took over the oath as first Governor of 26th State of the country. This oath ceremony was performed by R. S. Garg, the acting Chief Justice of Chhattisgarh state. On 31st Oct., 2000 as Sri Ajit Jogi took over the oath as Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh by the Governor, all around the State there was happiness. At present Dr. Raman Singh is the Chief Minister while Shekhar Dutt is the Governor.

Why the demand of separate Chhattisgarh State arose

Long term economic, political, social negligence and exploitation are the causes for the separation of this state. These causes created regional dissatisfaction. If these are not removed in time dissatisfaction among the people starts and causes the formation of new states.

Following factors have been responsible for the formation of Chhattisgarh state—

(1) There is a difference in language, dialects, standard of living and specific culture between the people of Chhattisgarh and the people of Madhya Pradesh.

(2) Bhopal, the capital of Madhya Pradesh is far away from Chhattisgarh. This caused unnecessary delay in taking decision and implementation in policy matters.

(3) The population of Chhattisgarh is more than that Maldives, Kuwait, Iraq, Nepal and Sri Lanka.

(4) The area of Chhattisgarh is more than that of some states of the country.

(5) The collection of revenue at Chhattisgarh is more than the allocation of money for the development of Chhattisgarh *e.g.* The total revenue earned from Bastar district is Rs. 120 crore annually while the allocation is only Rs. 5 crore for the development.

(6) At the time of organisation, the Chhattisgarh region was meted out step motherly treatment *e.g.* High Court and its bench, Revenue Board, Transport Commissioner and Excise Commissioner, Accountant General office, Land revenue, Electric Board, State Industrial Corporation, Industrial Development Corporation, State Expert Corporation, Minning Corporation, Financial Corporation are all located in Madhya Pradesh region ignoring the Chhattisgarh region.

(7) Industrial development has been more progressive in Madhya Pradesh region, Chhattisgarh region has only been a source of mining.

(8) Low literacy rate in Chhattisgarh has been a cause of exploitation of its people by the outside

people. Though there is a big railway board here, the people from Bengal Odisha, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh are being employed here.

Historical background of Chhattisgarh State

(1) In 1861 Chhattisgarh was merged with central provinces, the cause for the emergence of the feeling of the formation of separate Chhattisgarh state.

(2) First in 1924, first time the Raipur Congress Committee demanded the formation of Chhattisgarh state; thereafter Tripuri conference at Jabalpur (1939) also raised this issue.

(3) In 1956, a memorandum for the separate Chhattisgarh state was given to state re-organization commission.

(4) Dr. Khuv Chand Baghel, the member of the Rajya Sabha in 1967 made an issue for the separation of Chhattisgarh state which was converted into public movement and he formed the Chhattisgarh Brotherhood Association.

(5) Till 1977 the development of Chhattisgarh and the rest of the Madhya Pradesh took place together, so the demand of separate Chhattisgarh was limited.

(6) A political conference was held at Raipur in 1997 for the separation of Chhattisgarh state.

(7) Sri Mahesh Tiwari, a Janta Dal member and representative from Chhattisgarh Bemera Vidhan Sabha seat made a non-governmental (non-official) resolution in collaboration with Congress on 28th June, 1991, But the B.J.P. failed to pass it.

(8) Sri Gopal Parmar, a B.J.P. M.L.A. from Agar Vidhan Sabha seat of Malwa region made a resolution for separate Chhattisgarh state on 4th March, 1994, which was unanimously passed by Vidhan Sabha on 18th March, 1994.

(9) On 9th April, 1995 under the leadership of Sri Dau Anand Kumar, a social worker of 'Azad Chhattisgarh Fauz' a 1000 day uninterrupted Dharna was staged.

(10) B.J.P. itself faced the revolt of its own party members when during a small tenure of 13 days of Atal Bihari Vajpai as a Prime Minister they did not discuss the issue of separate Chhattisgarh state during its presidential address.

(11) For the election manifesto during the 12th Parliament elections in 1998, the coalition B.J.P. Government raised the issue of separate Chhattisgarh state in its national manifesto.

(12) Under the Constitutional articles 2, 3, 4 President of India sent Madhya Pradesh Reorganisation Bill, 1998 for discussion. On 31 August and 1st September a special session of Madhya Pradesh Assembly was called Sri Rajendra Prasad Shukla proposed the bill for discussion in state Assembly in which the State Government proposed at least three dozen amendments which were proposed as an advice by Sir Sriniwas Tiwari, the Chairman of Madhya Pradesh Vidhan Sabha and the 2nd October, 1998 was the proposed date suggested to Central Government for formation of Chhattisgarh state.

(13) In August 2000, both the houses of Parliament passed the state Re-organization Bill.

(14) On 1st November, 2000, Chhattisgarh came into existence as a 26th state of the republic of India.

Raipur, Bastar and Bilaspur are the divisions of Chhattisgarh state, in which there were 16 districts (Two new districts Bijapur and Narayanpur were created on 1st April, 2007.). The detailed account of Districts. Tehsils and Development Blocks is given below—

S. No.	Districts	Area (km^2)	Population (2011)		Tehsils
			1. Bilaspur Division (69,82,989)		
1.	**Bilaspur**	8,270		26,63,629	1. Bilha
			Male :	13,51,574	2. Masturi
			Female :	13,12,055	3. Marwahi*
					4. Gorella
					5. Pendra

					6. Kota
					7. Takhatpur
2.	**Janjgir-Champa**	3,852		16,19,707	1. Akaltara
			Male :	8,15,717	2. Balloda
			Female :	8,03,990	3. Pamgarh
					4. Navagarh (Janjmir)
					5. Bamhanideeh
					6. Sakti
					7. Malakhroda
					8. Jaijepur
					9. Dabhra
3.	**Korba**	6,615		12,06,640	1. Korba
			Male :	6,12,915	2. Katghora
			Female :	5,93,725	3. Pauri Uproda
					4. Pali
					5. Kartala
4.	**Raigarh**	7,079		14,93,984	1. Raigarh
			Male :	7,50,278	2. Pusoor
			Female :	7,43,706	3. Kharsiya*
					4. Gharchhora*
					5. Tamnar*
					6. Lalunga*
					6. Sarangarh*
					8. Saria Lengha (Baramkela)
					9. Dharam Jaigarh
	2. Sarguja Division (38,72,911)				
5.	**Jashpoor**	5,825		8,51,669	1. Jashpoor
			Male :	4,24,747	2. Manora
			Female :	4,26,922	3. Kunkuri
					4. Duldula
					5. Farsha Bahar (Tapkara)
					6. Bagicha
					7. Kansa Bell
					8. Patthalgaon
6.	**Sarguja**	15,765		23,59,886	1. Ambikapur*
			Male :	11,93,129	2. Batoli*
			Female :	11,66,757	3. Udaipur*
					4. Lakhanpur*
					5. Sitapur
					6. Mainpat*
					7. Lundra*

7.	**Koriya**	5,978		6,58,917	1. Bharatpur
			Male :	3,34,737	2. Baikunthpur
			Female :	3,24,180	3. Sonhet
					4. Manendragarh
					5. Khergawa
		3. Raipur Division (1,10,96,482)			
8.	**Raipur**	13,083		40,63,872	1. Raipur (Dharsenwa)
			Male :	20,48,186	2. Abhanpur
			Female :	20,15,686	3. Chandkhuri (Orang)
					4. Tilda
					5. Razim
9.	**Mahasamund**	4,787		10,32,754	1. Mahasamund
			Male :	5,11,967	2. Bag-Bahara
			Female :	5,20,787	3. Pithora
					4. Saraipali
					5. Basna
10.	**Dhamtari**	3,385		7,99,781	1. Dhamtari
			Male :	3,97,897	2. Magarload
			Female :	4,01,884	3. Kurud
					4. Sihawa (Nagari)
11.	**Durg**	8,542		33,43,872	1. Durg
			Male :	16,82,101	2. Patan
			Female :	16,61,771	3. Dhamdha
					4. Sanjari Balod
12.	**Rajnandgaon**	8,062		15,37,133	1. Rajnandgaon
			Male :	7,62,855	2. Dongargaon
			Female :	7,74,278	3. Chhuriya
					4. Kheragarh
					5. Chhuikhadan
					6. Dongargarh
					7. Mohla*
					8. Chauki*
					9. Manpur*
13.	**Kabirdham**	4,223		8,22,526	1. Kawardha
			Male :	4,12,058	2. Bodla
			Female :	4,10,468	3. Pandriya (U.S. Cohra)
		4. Bastar Division (30,88,424)			
14.	**Bastar**	14,974		14,13,199	1. Jagadalpur*
			Male :	6,98,487	2. Lohandiguda*
			Female :	7,14,712	3. Darbha*
					4. Tokapal*
					5. Bastanar*
					6. Bastar*
					7. Bakabada*
					8. Abhuzmar (Orchha)

15.	**Dantewara (South Baster)**	17,634		5,33,638	
			Male :	2,64,142	1. Avanalli Ossor
			Female :	2,69,496	
					2. Bhairmgarh
					3. Dantewara
					4. Kua-Konda
					5. Geedam
					6. Katekalyan
16.	**Kanker (North Bastar)**	6,513		7,48,941	1. Kanker
			Male :	3,73,338	2. Charama
			Female :	3,75,603	3. Sarona*
					4. Bhanupratappur
					5. Durgkondol
					6. Antagarh
					7. Koyalibera
17.	**Bijapur**	6555		2,55,230	1. Bijapur
			Male :	1,28,663	2. Bhopalpattanam
			Female :	1,26,567	
18.	**Narayanpur**	6640	—	1,39,820	1. Narayanpur
			Male :	70,104	
			Female :	69,716	
19.	**Sukama**	**			1. Chindgarh
					2. Sukama
					3. Konta
20.	**Kondagaon**	**			1. Keshkal
					2. Baderajpur
					3. Makdi
					4. Kondagaon
					5. Pharasgaon
21.	**Balodabazar**	**			1. Bilaigarh
					2. Kasdol
					3. Balodabazar
					4. Palari
					5. Bhatapara
					6. Simga
22.	**Gariyaband**	**			1. Fingeshwar
					2. Chhura
					3. Gariyaband
					4. Mainpur
					5. Devbhog
23.	**Bemetara**	**			1. Nawagarh
					2. Bemetara
					3. Berla
					4. Saja
					5. Thankhamariya

24.	**Balod**	**		1. Daundi 2. Daundilohara 3. Gurur 4. Balod 5. Gundardehi
25.	**Mungeli**	**		1. Mungeli 2. Pathariya 3. Lormi
26.	**Surajpur**	**		1. Surajpur 2. Bhaiyathan 3. Odgi 4. Ramanujnagar 5. Premnagar 6. Pratappur
27.	**Balrampur**	**		1. Balrampur 2. Ramchandrapur (Rananujganj) 3. Wadrafnagar 4. Rajpur 5. Kusmi 6. Shankargarh

* Tribal Development Blocks.

** These data are yet not published by Chhattisgarh Govt. Because these are newly created district from January 1, 2012.

Physical Division of Chhattisgarh

The main cause of prosperity among the physical divisions of Chhattisgarh State is a plain area of Mahanadi and its tributaries, which is 80 km broad and 322 km long, situated in the mid of Chhattisgarh State. The height of this plain from M.S.L. is 300 metre. This plain area comprises southern portion of Raipur, Bilaspur and Durg. The Chhattisgarh State can be divided into following physical divisions :

(i) Baghelkhand Region
(ii) Jashpoor–Samari (Pat) Region
(iii) Mahanadi Basin
(iv) Dandkaranya Plateau

(i) Baghelkhand Region

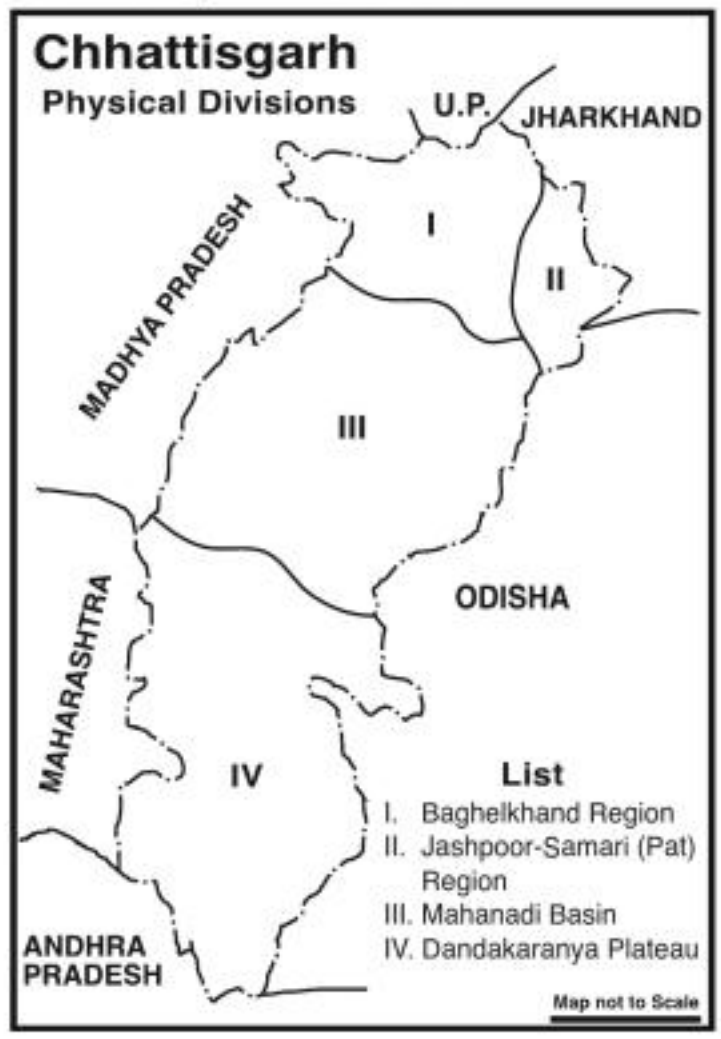
Situated in the northern part of the state, it includes parts of Koriya and Sarguja. It is bounded in the north by Uttar Pradesh, in North-West by Madhya Pradesh, in North-East by Bihar, in South-East Jashpoor-Samari-Pat region and in south by Mahanadi Basin (Chhattisgarh).

Baghelkhand is a part of ancient landmass. The Archean rocks are found in major parts of Koriya and Sarguja which comprise rocks of Dharwar system. In Koriya and its near by area the hillocks of mud colour sand stone are found. The average height of hillocks is 760 to 915 metre. Rihand, Hasdo and Kanhar are the main rivers.

The tropic of cancer passes through the middle of this state. The climate of the state is Mansoonal type. The summer is hot and wet and winter is normal and dry. May is the hottest month. The average summer temperature is 35° celsius while that of winter is 10° –12° celsius. The average annual rainfall of Sarguja is 154 cms. Mainpat the south of Sarguja gets the rain from Bay of Bengal branch.

(ii) Jashpoor-Samari (Pat) Region

This region is in a small area situated in the North-Eastern part of Chhattisgarh state. It includes Jashpoor district and some parts of (Samari and Kusmi Tehsil) Sarguja district. It is known as a pat region. The region is bounded in the East by Chhota-Nagpur plateau, in the West by Baghelkhand plateau (Sarguja plateau), and in South-West by Mahanadi basin.



Jashpoor-Samri (Pat) pradesh is a plateau region, which rises from Mahanadi plain and merges with Chhotta Nagpur plateau. This region has a terraced relief in which few uniform areas are separated from one another by steep slopes. The lowest level is in the south which is 300 metre high from M.S.L. The height of the terraced land varies from 400 metre to 1000 metre, which is known as the pat region. The word 'Pat' is used for level top mesa Plateaus.

Structurally the region is composed of ancient rocks. *e.g.* (i) Uncrystalline Gneisses, (ii) Dharwar, (iii) Lava, (iv) Laterite. These igneous rocks are instrusive *e.g.* Granite, Gneisses and Schists. This region has three river systems—(i) Eb river, a

tributary of Mahanadi, (ii) Sankh river, a tributary of river Brahmani (iii) Kanhar river, a tributary of river Son, which itself is a tributary of Ganga.

The northern part of the Jashpoor-Samari-Pat region includes entire Samari (Kusmi) Tehsil and Jashpoor Tehsil, which are the part of North-Western bank. River Kanhar and Gayoro drain in river Son.

The climate of this region is tropical mansoonal type. The height of the Jashpoor is 771 metre, the place is comparatively less warm in comparison to plain area.

(iii) Mahanadi Basin

In ancient times it was known as a Kaushal. The region is situated in upper drainage area of Mahanadi. It includes Raigarh, Korba, Bilaspur, Janjgir, Kabirdham, Raipur, Mahasamund, Durg, Rajnand Gaon, Dhamtari districts. This region is extended from 19° – 47' N. Lat. to 23°–7' N. Lat. and 80° – 17' E. to 83° – 52' E. Lat. covering an area of 68,064 km^2. In the north it is bounded by the small dissected plateau of Baghelkhand, in the West by Maikal range, in the South by Dandkaranya plateau and in South-East by Raipur highland. In the East river Mahanadi drains in a narrow path to Odisha plain. Geologically the region is composed of Cuddapah system of rocks, with some plateau of Dharwar and Gondwana rocks.

The height of this basin from M.S.L. is below 300 metre. In the East it looks like a inclined disc. With a few exceptions the entire plain is level area. The height and altitudinal relief increases at the margin. The northern Margin of the basin is at some places 1000 metre high. This basin can be divided into two relief divisions :

(A) Chhattisgarh plain,

(B) Marginal highlands.

(A) Chhattisgarh plain—It is fan shaped, covering an area of 31,600 km^2, composed of sedimentary rocks. This region includes Hasdo-Mand plain, Bilaspur plain, Shivnath par plain, Mahanadi-Shivnath Doab, and Mahanadi par plain. The average height of this plain is 220 metre increasing towards the highland.

(B) Marginal highland—This region is surrounding the entire Chhattisgarh plain which covers an area of 36,464 km^2. Average height of this plain is 330 metre increasing towards North-East and North-West margin upto more than 1000 metre. Due to diversity in Geological structure and dissection by draining rivers, the region has been divided into ridges, ranges and troughs, and includes highland, Maikal range and Southern highland.

River Mahanadi is the main river. Shivnath, Hasdo, Mandpeti, Jonk, Surgi and Hail are tributaries.

(iv) Dandkaranya Plateau

The region is situated in the South of Mahanadi basin. It is also known as the Bastar plateau. It is extended from 17° – 46' N. to 20°–34' N. Lat. and 80°–15' E. to 82°–1' E. long, covering an area of 39060 km^2.

The region is composed of ancient rocks including Vindhyan system, Cuddappa system, ancient Lava, Igneous granite and Gneisses, etc.

Dharwar Rocks

These are sedimentary metamorphic rocks, full of faults and North-South axis folds, Schists. Slate, Sandstone, Quartize, Hematite, Granite are the main rocks.

Archean Rocks

These include granite and schists as well as Felspar, Mica and Hornebland minerals.

Ancient Lava

Composed of Basaltic rocks.

Cuddapah System

Includes Quartize sand stones limestone and shales.

Vindhyan System

Includes Quartize and sandstone.

The average height of this region is 150 metre from M.S.L., but maximum height is 800 metre. This region can be divided in to Northern plain, North-East plateau, Ranges of Abujhamar, Southern plateau, Southern plain.

This region is drained by river Mahanadi and Godawari. Indravati a tributary of Godawari flows from East to West in the mid of the region. Narangi, Bor-Dhig, Gudara, Nibara, Kotari in the North and Dantewara, Berudi and Chintabmumu in the south are the small tributaries of Indravati. Sabbri, a tributary of Godawari also flows in the South-East of Dandkaranya region.

Climate, Rain and Seasons of Chhattisgarh

Long term conditions of temperature, pressure and amount of rainfall, average velocity of wind are the elements which determine the climate of an area. The climate of Chhattisgarh can be understood with the following facts :

Temperature in the month of January

In the month of January 10° celsius isotherm passes through the northern part of Chhattisgarh state. As we pass from North to South the temperature increases. 12·5° celsius isotherm passes through mid of the State, while 15° celsius isotherm passes through South-Western part of Dantewara.

Temperature in the month of June

In the month of June, the temperature of the state varies from 37° celsius to 42·5° celsius. The lowest temp. of the month has been recorded in Sarguja district of northern Chhattisgarh. Where the 37° celsius isotherm passes through it, while 40° celsius isotherm passes through Jashpoor, Raigarh, Korba, Bilaspur and Kabirdham. Another isotherm passes through Eastern part of Bastar and Western part of Dantewara. Temperature increases from March to June, but by the end of the June the temperature decreases as the monsoon arrives. In July Raipur's temperature remains about 27°-28° celsius. There is no variation in the temperature in the month of September. But in the month of September and October when the sky is clear, there is a slight increase in the temperature.

Rainfall

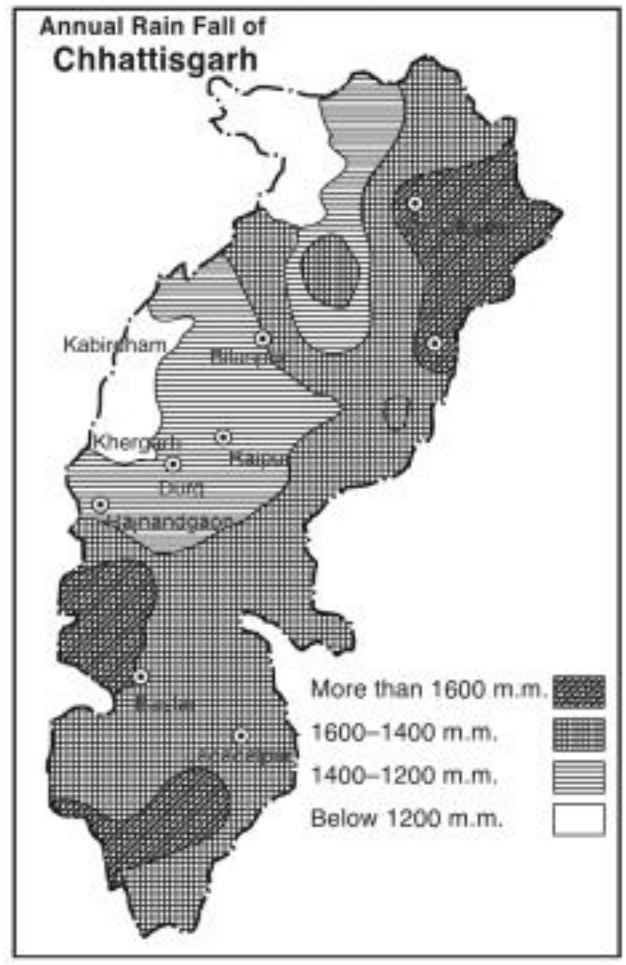
Chhattisgarh experiences Monsoonal rain. The maximum rainfall is received by the Bay of Bengal branch. The amount of rainfall decreases from East to West. In the East of South Bastar and Dantewara 160 cm Isohyet passes through. The average rainfall is more in North-East Chhattisgarh. Due to its being a hilly tract the climate of Bastar is cold and moist with heavy rainfall. In summer the area is generally cool. The Bay of Bengal Monsoonal branch provides heavy rainfall. Abhujhamar, situated in the same region receives maximum rainfall, roughly 187·5 cms.

Seasons

Chhattisgarh experiences three seasons—

(1) Hot Season

This season starts from March to mid June. In the month of June when the sun shines vertically over the tropic of cancer, due to high temperature, the pressure decreases. In the month of May 1002 mb. Isobar passes through Bastar and 42·5° celsius isotherm passes through Durg; While 40° celsius



isotherm passes through East Bastar and North Bilaspur, and 37° celsius isotherm passes through Sarguja and Jashpour.

(2) Rainy Season

The rainy season starts from mid June to September. Ambikapur, Bilaspur and Bastar experiences rain more than 100 cms. In the last week of September, the velocity of the monsoon decreases and sky becomes clear and the amount of rainfall also decreases. In the month of October, the average rainfall decreases and slightly the temperature increases.

(3) Winter Season

In the end of September, the temperature decreases, this is caused due to rainfall and humidity.

Rivers

Mahanadi

- It is the most important river of Chhattisgarh State.
- It is also known as the life line of Chhattisgarh.
- The total length of this river is 851 km in which 286 km flows in Chhattisgarh state.
- The river Mahanadi emerges from Shrangi mount situated in Sihawa Tehsil of Dhamtari district. The river flows from North to East and merges with Bay of Bengal near Cuttuck.
- Shivnath, Peri and Hasdo are its tributaries.

Shivnath River

- This is the second important river of Chhattisgarh State.
- It emerges from Panabaras range situated at the height of 625 metre, at Ambagarh Tehsil in Rajnandgaon district.
- It is the main river flowing from Durg and Rajnandgaon and merges with Mahanadi at Shiv Narayan.
- Maniyari, Lilagar, Arpa, Kharoon and Surhi are its tributaries.

Peri River

- It is the main river of district Raipur.
- It emerges from Bhatragarh range near Brindranavagarh in district Raipur.
- It merges with Mahanadi at Rajim.

Hasdo River

- It is an important river of Korba and Champa region.
- It emerges from Kaimur ranges in Koriya district.
- It merges with Mhanadi near Shiv Narain.

Indravati

- This river is 525 km (Roughly 329 miles long).
- It emerges from Dongar-Kala range at Yuamal Rampur place of Kalahandi district in Odisha.
- River Indravati flows 372 km in Bastar, nearly 30 small distributaries are its tributaries.
- Sankhini, Dankni, Kotari, Nibbra, Madin, Dantewara and Mander are its tributaries.
- It merges with Godawari near Bhopalpattanam.

Arpa River

- It is the main river of district Bilaspur.
- It emerges from Khondri range of Pendra plateau.
- Its length is 180 km.
- Kharang is its main tributary.
- This river merges with Shivnath river at Matiyari Mangla (Villah).

Maniyari River

- It is an important river of Bilaspur district.
- It originates from Mukhanda hill of Kund and Lorami areas in Belpan region.
- Its length is 102 km.
- After crossing the Mungali Tehsil, it merges with Shivnath river.

Half Nadi

- It emerges from Pandariya hills.
- Its length is 128 km.
- River Sakri is its tributary.
- In district Durg it merges with Shivnath river.

Lilagar River

- It emerges from eastern ranges of Korba district.
- Mainly the river irrigates Bilaspur and Raigarh districts.
- It merges with river Shivnath.

Eb River

- It emerges from Kharuja ranges of Pendrapat plateau at Jashpoor Nagar.
- Mainly this river drains in Jashpoor and Raigarh districts.
- Siri river in the East and Dorki, Maini and Khorang in the West are its tributaries.

Other Rivers

Zonk : Main river of district Raipur usually flows in Balloda-Bazar Tehsil.

Kotri : It originates from Durg district, it also drains in Bastar.

Sabri : It is the main river of the southern part of Bastar.

Bagh : This river emerges from Kulzhari range of Rajnandgaon district. Mainly it drains the Western part of Rajnand Gaon district.

Tandula : This river emerges from northern range situated at Bhanupratappur in district Kanker. Mainly the river drains Durg district.

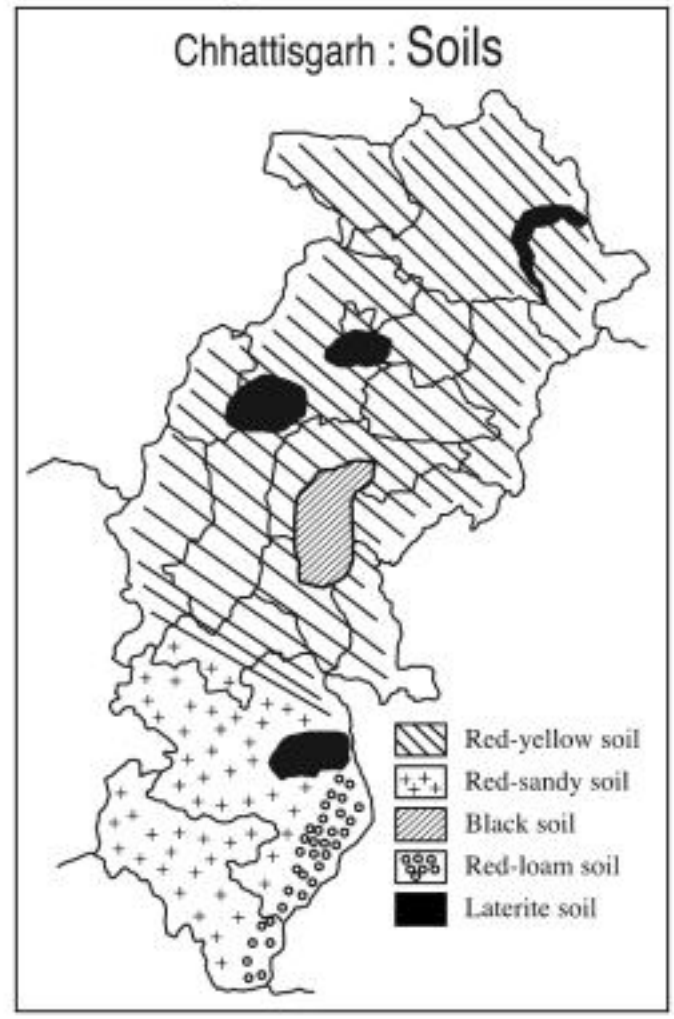
Mad : It emerges from the northern part of Mainpat plateau of Sarguja district. The river drains mainly Sarguja and Raigarh districts. It merges with Mahanadi near Chandrapur.

Towns of Chhattisgarh, Situated at the Banks of Rivers

Towns	Rivers
Bilaspur	Arpa
Jagadalpur	Indravati
Durg	Shivnath
Raipur	Kharoon
Champa	Hasdo
Korba	Hasdo
Shivri Narayan	Mahanadi
Rajim	Mahanadi
Sirpur	Mahanadi
Raigarh	Kailo
Barsoor	Indravati
Kanker	Doodh Nadi
Kondagav	Narangi
Konta	Sabri
Dantewara	Dankin-Shankhini

Soils of Chhattisgarh

Due to disintegration in the rocks as well as change in their physical and chemical character constituting the upper top portion of the earth is called the soil. The following types of soils are found in Chhattisgarh—



(i) Red and Yellow Soil

This soil is found in the entire Chhattisgarh state formed from the Gondwana Rocks and in which sands and conglomerates are found. Due to less amount of humus and Nitrogen its fertility decreases. Mostly this soil is found in Sarguja, Korea, Bilaspur, Janjgir, Raigarh, Jashpoor, Mahasamund, Dantewara and Bastar districts of east Mahanadi basin.

(ii) Laterite Soil

This soil is of red brick colour, being formed from red rocks. This soil is found in the southern part of Mainpat plateau and the adjoining districts of Bilaspur, Korba, Janjgir Bematera at Durg and near about Jagdalpur of Bastar division. This soil is rich in Alumina, Silica and iron-oxide and poor in lime, pottash and phosphoric acid.

(iii) Black Soil

This soil is found in the mid part of Raipur district, Western part of Bilaspur, Rajnandgaon